

## STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

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BILL HASLAM

GOVERNOR

**DANIELLE W. BARNES** 

COMMISSIONER

May 9, 2018

Carl McCullen, Board Chair New Harvest Child Care Center PO Box 171 Columbia, Tennessee 38401-2679

Dear Dr. McCullen,

The Department of Human Services (DHS) - Audit Services Division staff conducted an unannounced on-site monitoring review of the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) at New Harvest Child Care Center (Sponsor), Application Agreement number 00-435, on April 5, 2018. Additional information was requested and provided on April 10, 2018. The purpose of this review was to determine if the Sponsor complied with the *Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) applicable parts, provider agreement, and applicable Federal and State regulations.

#### Background

CACFP Sponsors utilize meal count sheets to record the number of breakfast, lunch, supper, and supplement meals served. Meals served by participating Sponsors must meet the minimum guidelines set by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and DHS to be eligible for reimbursement. The CACFP Sponsor reports the number of meals served through the DHS Tennessee Information Payment System (TIPS) to seek reimbursement. We inspected meal counts sheets for our test period and reconciled the meals claimed to the meals reported as served for each meal service. We also assessed compliance with civil rights requirements. In addition, we observed a lunch meal service at New Harvest Child Care Center on February 13, 2018.

Our review of the Sponsor's records for February 2018 disclosed the following:

# 1. The Sponsor reported the number of participants in the free and paid categories incorrectly

#### **Condition**

The Claim for Reimbursement for the test month reported 25 participants in the free category, four participants in the reduced-price category, and seven participants in the paid

category. However, based on our review of the Sponsor's records, we found that there were 27 participants in the free category, four participants in the reduced-price category, and four participants in the paid category.

The differences were based on the following:

 The number of participants reported in the paid category was over reported by three participants, and the number of participants in the free category was under reported by two participants.

There were 36 participants reported on the Claim for Reimbursement. However, based on our review of the Sponsor's records, we found there were 35 participants enrolled in the program. (See Exhibit)

This is a repeat finding from a previous report dated March 21, 2016.

#### Criteria

Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Section 226.10(c) states, "... In submitting a Claim for Reimbursement, each institution shall certify that the claim is correct and that records are available to support that claim ..."

#### Recommendation

The Sponsor should maintain all information used to determine eligibility, and ensure that each participant is classified and reported accurately based on categorical or income eligibility.

#### 2. The Sponsor served meals in excess of attendance

#### Condition

The Claim for Reimbursement for the test month reported 618 participant days. However, based on our review of the Sponsor's records, we found that there were 611 participant days. The Sponsor cannot claim more meals than participants in attendance.

As a result, two lunch meals and four supplements claimed were disallowed. (See Exhibit)

#### Criteria

Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Section 226.10(c) states, "...In submitting a Claim for Reimbursement, each institution shall certify that the claim is correct and that records are available to support that claim. ...."

#### Recommendation

The Sponsor should ensure that all participants are recorded as present only for their actual days of attendance and no meals are claimed over attendance.

3. The Sponsor did not provide documentation to support sufficient quantities of milk were purchased for all meals reported

#### Condition

Based on the number of meals served with milk as a required component, the Sponsor required a total of 5,060 ounces of milk. However, the Sponsor could only document the purchase of 4,448 ounces of milk, resulting in a shortage of 600 ounces of milk.

As a result, 100 breakfast meals served were disallowed. (See Exhibit)

#### Criteria

Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Section 226.17(b)(4) states, "Each child care center participating in the Program shall claim only the meal types specified in its approved application in accordance with the meal pattern requirements specified in §226.20. ..."

Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Section 226.20(c)(1) states, "Fluid milk, vegetables or fruit, or portions of both, and grains are required components of the breakfast meal."

#### Recommendation

The Sponsor should perform a month-end inventory for milk and maintain all receipts for food purchases to verify the required amount of milk was purchased and served.

#### 4. The Sponsor served meals outside of the approved serving time

#### Condition

An on-site review was completed on February 13, 2018, at New Harvest Child Care Center. The approved feeding time for the lunch meal was 10:30 to 11:00 a.m. We arrived at 10:00 a.m. and stayed until 11:45 a.m. One classroom was served at 10:30 a.m., but another classroom was served lunch at 11:15 a.m., which was outside of the approved meal service time. The meals did meet all requirements as a creditable meal.

As a result, no meals were disallowed.

#### Criteria

Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Section 226.17(b)(4) states, "Each child care center participating in the Program shall claim only the meal types specified in its approved application in accordance with the meal pattern requirements specified in §226.20...."

Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Section 226.17(b)(9) states, "Each child care center must maintain daily records of time of service meal counts by type (breakfast, lunch, supper, and snacks) served to enrolled children, and to adults performing labor necessary to the food service."

#### Recommendation

The Sponsor should ensure that meals are served during the approved feeding times.

<u>Note:</u> The Sponsor has updated the lunch meal service time to 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., which is the time during which the observed meal was served.

#### 5. The Sponsor did not provide a written code of standards

#### Condition

The Sponsor did not have a written code of standards of conduct.

#### Criteria

Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Section 226.22(d) states, "Institutions shall maintain a written code of standards of conduct which shall govern the performance of their officers, employees or agents engaged in the award and administration of contracts supported by Program payments..."

#### Recommendation

The Sponsor should create a written code of conduct standards that govern the performance of the officers, employees or agents engaged in the award and administration of contracts.

#### **Disallowed Meals cost**

No disallowed cost will be recouped due the amount under threshold for recoupment.

#### **Technical Assistance Provided**

During our visit on February 13, 2018, the Sponsor requested and was provided technical assistance regarding maintaining infant menus. Sample menus were provided. Technical assistance was also provided regarding including additional foods with required components.

#### Corrective Action

The Sponsor must complete the following actions within 30 days from the date of this report:

Prepare and submit a corrective action plan to address the deficiencies identified in this
report. The corrective action plan template is attached. Please return the corrective
action plan to:

#### AuditServices.CAPS.DHS@tn.gov

If you have questions relative to the corrective action plan please contact:

Allette Vayda, Director of Operations Child and Adult Care Food Program 8th Floor Citizens Plaza Building 400 Deaderick Street Nashville, Tennessee 37243 Allette.Vayda@tn.gov (615) 313-3769 We appreciate the assistance provided during this review. If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Sean Baker, Audit Director 2, at 615-313-4727 or Sean.Baker@tn.gov.

Sincerely,

Sam O. Alzouby, CFE
Director of Audit Services

#### Exhibit

CC: Paula McCullen, Director, New Harvest Child Care Center
Allette Vayda, Director of Operations, Child and Adult Care Food Program
Debra Pasta, Program Manager, Child and Adult Care Food Program
Elke Moore, Administrative Services Assistant 3, Child and Adult Care Food Program
Constance Moore, Program Specialist, Child and Adult Care Food Program
Marty Widner, Program Specialist, Child and Adult Care Food Program
Comptroller of the Treasury, State of Tennessee

### Exhibit

### Verification of CACFP Independent Center Claim

Sponsor: New Harvest Child Care Center

Review Month/Year: February 2018 Total Reimbursement: \$2,903.44

Site Meal Service Reconciliation and Monitor Activity	Reported on Claim	Reconciled to Documentation
Total Days of CACFP Food Service	20	20
Total Attendance	618	611
Number of Participants in Free Category	25	27
Number of Participants in Reduced-Price Category	4	4
Number of Participants in Paid Category	7	4
Total Number of Participants	36	35
Number of Breakfasts Served	519	419
Number of Lunches Served	613	611
Number of Supplements Served	615	611
Total Amount of Food Costs	xxxxxxxx	\$1,251.75
Total Amount of Eligible Food and Non-food Costs	xxxxxxxx	\$2,751.53



#### Tennessee Department of Human Services

## **Corrective Action Plan for Monitoring Findings**

Instructions: Please print in ink or type the information to complete this document. Enter the date of birth for each Responsible Principal and/or Individual in Section B. Attach the additional documentation requested. Enter your name, title and date of signature on the last page. Please sign your name in ink. Please return ALL pages of the completed Corrective Action Plan form.

#### Section A. Institution Information

Name of Sponsor/Agency/Site: New Ha Center	arvest Child Care	Agreement No. 00435	☐ SFSP ☑ CACFP
Mailing Address: PO Box 171 Columbia	a, Tennessee 38401	-2679	
Section B. Responsible Principal(s)	and/or Individual(s)		
			Inata at Dieth: / /
Name and Title: Carl McCullen, Board	Chair		Date of Birth: / /
Name and Title: Carl McCullen, Board ( Section C. Dates of Issuance of Mon		ective Action Plan	Date of Birth: / /

#### Section D. Findings

#### Findings:

- 1. The Sponsor reported the number of participants in the free and paid categories incorrectly
- 2. The Sponsor served meals in excess of attendance
- The Sponsor did not provide documentation to support sufficient quantities of milk were purchased for all meals reported
- 4. The Sponsor served meals outside of the approved serving time
- 5. The Sponsor did not provide a written code of standards

The following measures will be completed within **30 calendar days** of my institution's receipt of this corrective action plan:

Measure No. 1: The Sponsor reported the number of participants in the free and paid categories incorrectly

s fully and permanently corrected:	
Name:	Position Title:
Name:	Position Title:
Describe below the <b>step-by-step</b> pro	ocedures that will be implemented to correct the finding:
1.24.22	
implementing the procedures (i.e., will they begin?):	essing the finding be implemented? Provide a timeline below for will the procedures be done daily, weekly, monthly, or annually, and when
Where will the Corrective Action Plan	n documentation be retained? Please identify below:

Identify the name(s) and position title(s) of the employee(s) who will be responsible for ensuring that the finding

The finding will be fully and permanently corrected.

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Position Title:
Position Title:
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Measure No. 5: The Sponsor did not The finding will be fully and permanently Identify the name(s) and position title(s) is fully and permanently corrected:	
Name:	Position Title:

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I certify by my signature below that I am authorized by the institution to sign this document. As an authorized representative of the institution, I fully understand the corrective measures identified above and agree to fully implement these measures within the required time frame. I also understand that failure to fully and permanently correct the findings in my institution's CACFP or SFSP will result in its termination from the program, and the placement of the institution and its responsible principals on the National Disqualified List maintained by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Printed Name of Authorized Institution Official:		Position:		
Signature of Authorized Institution Official:	Date:	1	1	
Signature of Authorized TDHS Official:	Date:	1	/	

# Appeal Procedures for Child and Adult Care Food Program-Institutions Revised March 2017

- (xi) The institution, one of its sponsored facilities, or one of the principals of the institution or its facilities has been convicted for any activity that indicates a lack of business integrity;
- (c) Administrative review is also available if the State agency notifies the institution and responsible principal or responsible individual of the following actions: proposed disqualification of a responsible principal or responsible individual, denial of a budget, denial of a line item within a budget, downward adjustment of the amount approved in a budget, suspension of an institution's participation, denial of start-up or expansion funds, denial of a request for advanced payment, recovery of an advance in excess of a claim, denial of a claim for reimbursement (except for late submission), decision not to forward an exception request for payment of a late claim, overpayment demand, denial of a new or renewing institution's application for participation, denial of sponsored facility application, notice of proposed termination, claim denial, claim deadline exceptions and requests for upward adjustments to a claim, or any other action affecting an institutions participation or claim for payment.
- 3. All appeal requests must be presented in writing to the TDHS Division of Appeals and Hearings not later than 15 calendar days after the date the institution or sponsoring agency receives the notice of adverse administrative action.
- 4. The date of an institution's or sponsoring agency's receipt of a notice of suspension and/or proposed termination and disqualification will be governed by the federal regulation at 7 CFR Part 226.2. The notice must specify the action being proposed or taken and the basis for the action, and is considered to be received by the institution or day care home when it is delivered, sent by facsimile, or sent by email. If the notice is undeliverable, it is considered to be received by the institution, responsible principal or responsible individual, or day care home five days after being sent to the addressee's last known mailing address, facsimile number, or email address.
- 5. The TDHS Division of Appeals and Hearings will acknowledge the receipt of the appeal request within 10 calendar days of the receipt of the institution's or sponsoring agency's request for review. The written request for review should state if a fair hearing is requested or if a review of written information in lieu of a fair hearing is requested. If the appeal request from the institution or sponsoring agency does not specifically request a hearing, a review of written information in lieu of a hearing will occur. If a fair hearing is requested and the institution or sponsoring agency's representative fails to appear, the right to a personal appearance is waived.
- 6. If an institution or sponsoring agency does not request a fair hearing or a review of written information in lieu of the hearing within 15 calendar days from the date the institution or sponsoring agency receives a Notice of Proposed Termination, the TDHS will issue a letter advising the institution or sponsoring agency that it is terminated from the CACFP effective on the 16a calendar day following the institution's or sponsoring agency's receipt of the notice, and that the responsible principals and individuals of the institution or sponsoring agency are disqualified from participation.
- 7. To be considered for a fair hearing or for a review of written information in lieu of a fair

Appeal Procedures for Child and Adult Care Food Program-Institutions
Revised March 2017

hearing, all written documents must be submitted to the TDHS Division of Appeals and Hearings not later than 30 days after receipt of the notice of adverse administrative action.

- 8. The action of the TDHS must remain in effect during the administrative review. The effect of this requirement on particular actions by TDHS is as follows:
  - (i) Overpayment demand. During the period of the administrative review, TDHS is prohibited from taking action to collect or offset the overpayment. However TDHS must assess interest beginning with the initial demand for remittance of the overpayment and continuing through the period of administrative review unless the administrative review official overturns the TDHS's action.
  - (ii) Recovery of advances. During the administrative review, TDHS must continue its efforts to recover advances in excess of the claim for reimbursement for the applicable period. The recovery may be through a demand for full repayment or an adjustment of subsequent payments.
  - (iii) Program payments. The availability of Program payments during an administrative review of the denial of a new institution's application, denial of a renewing institution's application, proposed termination of a participating institution's agreement, and suspension of an institution are addressed in paragraphs (c)(1)(iii)(D), (c)(2)(iii)(D), (c)(3)(iii)(D), (c)(5)(i)(D), and (c)(5)(ii)(E), respectively, of 7 CFR §226.6.
- 9. The institution or sponsoring agency must refute the charges contained in the notice during the fair hearing or in the written information that is provided in lieu of the hearing.
- 10. The institution and the responsible principals and responsible individuals may retain legal counsel, or may be represented by another person.
- 11. If a fair hearing is requested, the institution or sponsoring agency will be notified in writing of the time, date and place of the fair hearing at least 10 calendar days in advance.
- 12. Any information which supports an adverse administrative action taken by the TDHS shall be available to the institution or sponsoring agency for inspection from the date of the receipt of the request for a fair hearing or a review of written information in lieu of the hearing.
- 13. In accordance with 7 CFR Part 226.6 (k)(8), the TDHS Division of Appeals and Hearings must conduct the administrative review of the proposed disqualification of the responsible principals and responsible individuals as part of the administrative review of the application denial, proposed termination, and/or proposed disqualification of the institution with which the responsible principals or responsible individuals are associated. However, at the administrative review official's discretion, separate administrative reviews may be held if the institution does not request an administrative review or if either the institution or the responsible principal or responsible individual demonstrates that their interests conflict.
- 14. The procedures contained in the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act found at TCA 4-5-301 et seq. shall be followed in rendering a decision on all appeals. The decision of the hearing officer is the final administrative determination to be afforded to the institution or sponsoring agency, and shall be rendered in a timely manner not to exceed 60 calendar days from the date of the receipt of the request for a fair hearing.
- 15. The processing limits for administrative appeals MUST be met. In the event a continuance is requested by a party, one continuance may be granted at the Hearing Official's discretion. This

Appeal Procedures for Child and Adult Care Food Program-Institutions Revised March 2017

continuance shall not be for a period longer than ten (10) calendar days unless there are exceptional circumstances. Exceptional circumstances must be detailed in the order of continuance and the order must contain a date certain for the hearing, to be set as soon as possible. A report of pending CACFP desk review and fair hearing requests will be generated and reviewed daily by the Clerk's Office and the Legal Director for Appeals and Hearings who will monitor the dates for timeliness. In the event a decision has not been rendered within forty-five (45) calendar days of the date of receipt of the request for fair hearing or deak review, the Legal Director for Appeals and Hearings or their back-up shall notify the hearing official to take appropriate action.

16. All requests for a fair hearing or for a review of written information in lieu of a hearing must be submitted to:

Tennessee Department of Human Services
Division of Appeals and Hearings
PO Box 198996, Clerk's Office
Nashville, TN 37219-8996
Fax: (615) 248-7013 or (866) 355-6136

E-mail: AnnealsClerksOffice.DHS@ta.gav

- 17. If a termination action is upheld by the hearing officer, the TDHS will issue a letter to the institution or sponsoring agency and its responsible principals and individuals advising that the termination and disqualification are effective on the date of the ruling issued by the hearing officer. The agency maintains searchable records of all administrative reviews and their dispositions for a period of five (5) years.
- 18. As required by 7 CFR Part 226.6 (c)(7), each disqualified institution, sponsoring agency, principal and individual will be placed on the National Disqualified List maintained by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Once included on the National Disqualified List, an institution, sponsoring agency, principal and individual shall remain on the list until such time as the USDA, in consultation with the TDHS, determines that the serious deficiencies that led to their placement on the list have been corrected, or until seven years have elapsed since they were disqualified from participation. However, if the institution, sponsoring agency, principal or individual has failed to repay debts owed under the program, they will remain on the list until the debt has been paid.